

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the pending Action of May 21 2003 for which one month was allotted for reply.

By this response, the Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby provisionally elects the invention of Group I, having claims 1 to 6, with traverse. Claims 7 to 16 are cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. The non-elected claims 17 to 21 are now withdrawn as directed to non-elected inventions III and IV, and may be the subject of one or more divisional applications.

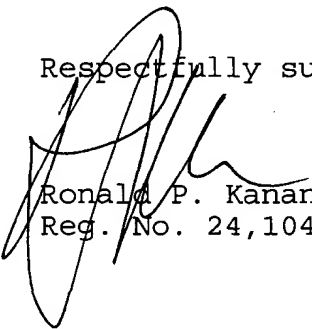
This traverse is partially based on the absence of a burden on the examiner to handle all of the claims, now that claims 7 to 16 are canceled, leaving claims 1 to 6 and claims 17 to 21, with new claims 22 to 27 being added and directed to the elected method invention of Group I. Support for the newly-added claims is found in the specification as filed, particularly at pages 8 to 15 and in Figs. 1 to 5.

It should be noted that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed with the application as submitted.

An early examination on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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